

**REMARKS**

With this Amendment, Applicants add new claims 15-18 and cancel claims 11-14. Therefore, claims 1-10 and 15-18 are all the claims currently pending in this Application.

**Claim Rejections**

Claims 1-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Lang (U.S. Patent 6,240,116). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants submit that Lang fails to disclose or suggest “a block having a stepped shape formed with a plurality of mount portions which have different heights and are arranged in a first direction parallel to an optical axis in order of height,” where the block is a “single, solid unit,” as claimed. Rather, Lang clearly illustrates and describes that the stepped shape and support for the laser diodes and lenses are formed from separate units including a cooler plate, heat spreaders, and submounts. Therefore, Applicants submit that Lang fails to anticipate claim 1.

Additionally, regarding claim 2, Applicants previously argued that Lang fails to disclose or suggest a bottom surface of a collimator lens array fixed to an upper surface of a mount portion, as recited. The Examiner has failed to respond specifically to this argument. Lang fails to provide any specific explanation regarding how a collimator lens or a collimator lens array is attached to any other element. Therefore, there is no disclosure or suggestion of a bottom surface of a collimator lens array fixed to an upper surface of a mount portion, and such a limitation is not inherent to the description of Lang. Therefore, Applicants submit that Lang fails to anticipate claim 2 and respectfully request that if the Examiner maintains this rejection of claim 2 that he provide a clear response to the above-discussed argument regarding claim 2.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 2 are patentable over Lang and that claims 3-10 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on claims 1 and 2.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of these claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

#### **New Claims**

With this Amendment, Applicants add new claims 15-18 in order more fully to cover various aspects of Applicants' invention as disclosed in the specification.

Applicants respectfully request entry and allowance of these new claims.

#### **Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 20, 2006